

THE CIRCULAR.

"MANY SHALL RUN TO AND FRO, AND KNOWLEDGE SHALL BE INCREASED."—Daniel xii. 4.

VOL. III.

WILMINGTON, Del. FRIDAY, May 28, 1824.

NO. 4.

THE CIRCULAR

Is Published every Friday,

AT NO. 97, MARKET-STREET, WILMINGTON,

By Robert Porter,

AT TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM.—PAYABLE AT

THE EXPIRATION OF THE FIRST SIX MONTHS.

—ANY PERSON WHO PROCURES SIX SUBSCRIBERS, AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE

PAYMENT, SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A COPY.

Foreign Missions.

Condensed for the Boston Recorder from the
Missionary Herald for May.

PALESTINE MISSION.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. Pliny Fisk,
to the Hon. Samuel Hubbard.

The following is a copy of a letter from Mr.
Leutzen, a German merchant, whom we
knew in Alexandria, to Mr. Wolff:

Alexandria, Feb. 4, 1824.

VERY DEAR FRIEND.—After your departure, the public opinion was expressed universally in your favor. Both your sermons on Sunday, as well as that on board the Danish vessel, as that in the house of the Danish Consul, very much edified all your hearers and many of them have expressed the wish that you might soon return to Alexandria.

I have heard in several places, that several of the Bibles you distributed here among the inhabitants, have been taken by the Catholic priest of this place, but it cannot yet be said with certainty whether those gentlemen have burnt them. It is generally believed, and we may suppose with much probability that they have; for many, many excommunications have been pronounced against those who are in possession of Bibles. The Pater, superior of the Catholic convent, displayed his inquisitorial rage in the most disgraceful manner the Sunday before your departure. The priest praised the Catholic church, as that church in which exclusively salvation can be obtained; and for a proof, he mentioned, among many other things, the following fact, which he said happened among the Catholics in Hungary. "A malefactor in Hungary, was put in prison and condemned to death. He refused to be converted by any means whatever. Several priests were ordered to call at the prison on that obstinate sinner, but all their pains were unfruitful and vain; but a Franciscan Friar appeared, and at once gave his word to convert the malefactor, who still persevered in blaspheming the Godhead and religion. The Friar now began himself to curse and blaspheme every thing, till he came to the Virgin Mary. 'Stop,' exclaimed the malefactor, 'O, not her.' The Friar was satisfied with that exclamation, and congratulated himself on having accomplished such a great work of conversion!"

I have already distributed the greater part of the tracts you gave me, and all to whom I gave them were very contented and expressed their gratitude. I salute you with devout affection.

Your most humble servant,
LEUTZEN.

CEYLON MISSION.

JOINT LETTER OF THE MISSIONARIES.

Proposed Native College.

In our last letter we mentioned that we had it in contemplation to establish a Central School or College. We have matured the plan of such an institution, and had it printed. Batticotta has been considered the most eligible place for its location, and the brother who has been unanimously chosen to take charge of it, is brother Poor.

Day School for Girls.

Our day schools have been increased. We have now five such schools under our care. We consider that if the almost insuperable prejudice which the heathen have entertained against having their female children taught, be broken down, it will afford us an additional ground of hope, that the appearing of the Son of man to reign over this people, is near.

Procuring and distribution of Books and Tracts.

In connexion with our brethren of the Wesleyan and Church Missionary Societies, we have printed an edition of 6000 copies of a Tract, containing a history of the downfall of idolatry and the establishment of the Christian faith in the Society Islands. Of these, we have distributed about 5000, since we last wrote.

The whole number of day schools is 42, containing 1300 children, who daily attend them.

With gratitude to our God we add, that a door is opened to distribute the Scriptures, among the Catholics. About 2000 copies of an abridgment of the New Testament, with other Tracts, were distributed in less than two weeks; and these principally among the Catholics. In one of the islands, about 75 miles from us, some of the Catholics determined that, though in opposition to the commands of their priests, they would receive the tracts which were offered to them.

Establishment of a Press at Nellore.

We expressed a hope in our last letter, that we should yet have a press. We are happy to say, that the government of this island has permitted a press to be established at Nellore, under the direction of our brethren of the Church Missionary Society. Nellore is within five miles of two of our stations.

Concluding Remarks.

To carry our plans of usefulness into operation, we feel we have to draw largely upon the charity of our patrons. We hope, however, that they will never be weary in well doing; but will assist us to the extent of our wants. We are situated in the midst of a vast population of immortal beings, who are on the road to eternal death; and whatever is to be done to stop them in their ruinous course must be done quickly.

BOMBAY MISSION.

JOINT LETTER OF THE MISSIONARIES.

State of the Schools.

We occasionally hear of remarks made by the natives to this effect: "The adult generation cannot be persuaded to turn to another religion; but it may be expected that the boys taught in the religious schools will probably become Christians, and in this way by and by all the people will become Christians."

Of the Charleston, Savannah and Augusta schools we can only say, that they hold a very respectable rank among our other schools; and we desire always to be thankful to those benevolent societies who respectively support them.

Applications for additional Schools.

We continue to have many urgent applications for additional schools. At our last meeting we considered thirteen such applications which had been made within a short time. It was painful for us to decide, merely for want of money, on a refusal of all these applications.

Instruction of Jewish Children.

You will recollect that the one we called the Jewish school in Bombay, was at one time almost annihilated, through the jealousies of the Jews, which induced them to remove all their boys. The same school now contains 19 Jewish boys and a great number of Hindoo boys, mostly outcasts. Another school in Bombay contains nine Jewish boys, and another four;—making 33 in all. In 9 of our schools we have 116 Jewish boys.

Preaching of the Word.

In publishing the word of life by oral instruction we continue, as our main business, to go out daily in search of the people wherever we can find them and invite them to the Gospel feast. This we still continue to esteem as the most appropriate and important work of missionaries.

Reflections on the state of the Mission.

Now you see, dear Sir, that we have filled so many pages with accounts of our missionary labors and concerns, and that the outpouring of God's Spirit, and the conversion of sinners, make no item in the account. Could we do it in truth, our hearts would exult in sending you those joyful tidings; but we have no such tidings; and our hearts are often ready to die within us, because we have none.

Encouraging Appearances.

In a few instances we have thought that we could discover evident symptoms of the inward workings of the Holy Ghost.

Scottish Missionary Society at Bombay.

We have however great pleasure in informing you of the information of an Auxiliary Scottish Missionary Society in Bombay.

Recent communications from the Sorat mission inform us, that they are in constant expectation of the arrival of another missionary to strengthen their mission.

LETTER FROM MR. NICHOLS.

Dated at Tamah, Nov. 30, 1823.

Owing to a deficiency in the "latter rain," the crops have come in very scantily.

New arrangement respecting Schools.

The principal point which we are aiming to secure, is to pay the masters according to the progress, and not according to the number, of their scholars, as we have done heretofore. There are some obstacles in the way of this plan, but its having been successfully adopted in Bengal, leads us to hope that we may do the same. The success which is now attending a general system of education in Bengal, has led us recently to give new attention to the subject. Our mission has been foremost in this thing on this side of India, but still we are far behind the missionaries on the other side.

Tokens of Providential Favors.

One is an intimation from the Bombay Auxiliary Bible Society, that they will assist us in publishing the Book of Genesis, and the whole of the New Testament, which we have now on hand. This intimation was made without solicitation on our part.

The other is the grant of a spot for a burying ground for the use of our mission, by the Government, with an order that it shall be enclosed with a wall of masonry at the public expense. Surely for these things we ought to "thank God and take courage." We have many proofs of the enlightened and liberal views of the Hon. Mr. Elphinstone, Governor of Bombay.

Want of more Laborers.

Our very souls are panting for an increase of our number. Will not the Board send some young men to our help? We do ask for missionaries;—not, schoolmasters, physicians or mechanics; we want missionaries. Would to God there were missionaries scattered over the whole land. Two more are exceedingly wanted in Salsette, and two at Bassem, a most interesting station, 25 miles north of this, on the continent.

Scottish Missionary Society.

[In former communications the missionaries have mentioned the appointment of new laborers for the island of Bombay, from the Scottish Missionary Society.]

The Scottish Missionaries brought out with them the newly invented Lithographic press, which, we hope, will prove very serviceable in printing cards for the schools, the alphabet, title pages, and those things which require a larger type.

Our faith and patience are still tried by the want of any visible shaking among the dry bones of this valley,—"very many and very dry."

Arrival of news from America.

[When the above was written, the missionaries had received no intimation of the anticipated reinforcement of their mission, by the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Frost. This intimation was soon after received, in a letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Board.]

TANNAH, Dec. 10, 1823.

Your letter, for which we have waited with such anxiety, has greatly animated our hearts.

We had fears, lest our patrons, and the young candidates for missionary service, should be discouraged by our want of apparent success. But we rejoice in the assurance of having better things than these, for the perishing heathen around us. How much ground is yet to be possessed! Within a hundred miles of us, how many great

towns there are, containing thousands of people sitting in the shadow of death! Let not the young men at Andover, &c. forget the millions of India.

We are all now much engaged in finishing and revising the translation of the New Testament, and of the book of Genesis, which is now in press.

The new plan which we have digested for our own schools, is to succeed well.

We make the following brief extract of a letter from the Rev. A. McCaul, who, when he wrote the letter was at Warsaw.—On Sunday last, the objects of our mission were set before the public in a most solemn and respectable manner. The venerable Lutheran Consistory had promised to ordain Messrs. Wendt and Hoff, last Sunday; the 25th, was the day appointed: no day could be more agreeable, as it was the feast of Paul's conversion. The ordination took place before a congregation of above two thousand persons. What has pleased me exceedingly in this matter is, that my brethren were ordained as missionaries of our society, and not merely as Lutheran ministers.

Character of Mr. Wolff the Missionary.

He is represented as so extraordinary a man, that there is no calculating *a priori* concerning his motions. He is a great traveller; has visited Syria, Malta, England, Antioch, Aleppo, Rome, Jerusalem, and many other places. He is a man to whom a floor is a feather bed, and a box a bolster; who finds a friend alike in the persecutor of his former or present faith;—can conciliate a Pacha or confute a Patriarch; who travels without a guide; speaks without an interpreter; can live (as it were) without food, and pay without money—forgiving all the insults he meets with, and forgetting all the flattery he receives; who knows little of worldly conduct, and yet accommodates himself to all men, without giving offence to any—such a man must excite no ordinary degree of attention, in a country, and among a people, whose monotony of manner and habits, has remained undisturbed for centuries.—And such a man, and more, is Mr. Wolff.

The Character of the Rev. Pliny Fisk is represented to be that of a true Christian; his simple piety, solid sense, amiable temper, and strong constitution, have eminently predisposed him for his calling, and the experience he has obtained by two years of travel between Cairo and Smyrna, has amply qualified him to be the guide and director of others, who may follow him in this most interesting and arduous mission.

EXTRACT FROM DR. NOTT.

Philosophy can only heave a sigh, a longing sigh, after immortality. Eternity is to her an unknown vast, over which she soars on conjecture's trembling wing. Above—beneath—around—is an unfathomable void; and doubt, uncertainty, or despair, is the result of all her inquiries.

Christianity, on the other hand, having furnished all necessary information concerning life, with firm and undaunted step, crosses death's narrow isthmus, and boldly launches forth into that dread futurity which borders on it. Her path is marked with glory. The once dark, dreary region brightens as she approaches it, and benignly smiles as she passes over it. Faith follows where she advances: till reaching the summit of everlasting hills, an unknown scene, in endless varieties of loveliness and beauty presents itself, over which the ravished eye wanders, without a cloud to dim, or a limit to obstruct its sight. In the midst of this scene, rendered luminous by the glory which covers it, the city—the palace—the throne of GOD appears. Trees of life wave their ambrosial tops around it; rivers of salvation issue from beneath it.—Before it, angels touch their harps of living melody, and saints, in sweet repose, breathe forth to the listening heavens their grateful songs. The breezes of Paradise waft the symphony and the bending sky directs it to the earth. The redeemed of the LORD, catch the distant sound, and feel a sudden rapture.

Do unto others all those things which you wish they should do unto you.

Festivals.

A correspondent informs us that there has been a pleasing revival of religion in Windsor, Me.—About the middle of March a wonderful display of the glory of God was manifested in a school consisting of about sixty scholars; and the time usually allotted for recreation was spent by these immortals, in calling upon God for mercy, and in praising his name for redeeming grace. Meetings were held every day in the week for some time; great solemnity rested on the minds of the people in every part of the town; numbers found peace in believing; and last Fast day thirty-three were received into the Methodist Society, on trial, among whom are the instructor and his wife, and many valuable citizens. Twenty-one have been baptized and the work is steadily progressing. "O that men would praise God for his goodness."

The following cheering intelligence is gathered from an article in the Boston Recorder.

The number of persons admitted to the Park-street, Old South, and Union Churches in this city, from January, 1823, to April, 1824, is two hundred and eighty-three. This is the first revival with which the Congregational churches have been blest since 1740.

In the First Society in Charleston, about seventy-five persons, (of whom sixty-five have been admitted to the church) embraced a hope of cordial reconciliation to God during the last year.

In the recent revivals in South-Carolina and Georgia, a number of slaves have been among the subjects of grace.

In the counties of Halifax, Pittsylvania, and Bedford, Va. there is a glorious work of grace.

During the last year, 170 have been added to one church, and 120 to three others.—Persons of every rank and age have become subjects of renewing grace.

At the Falls of St. Mary, in the Michigan Territory, at the missionary station, under the care of the Western Missionary Society, among the soldiers of the United States garrison, there is a Revival of religion. The Rev. Mr. Laird states that six soldiers have obtained a hope, and 12 others anxiously inquiring, "What shall I do to be saved?"

In Missouri, the Baptist Churches have received large additions during the last year. 39 churches in one Association have received five hundred and four persons by baptism. In the Presbyterian, Baptist and Episcopal Churches in Unadilla, N. Y. and in the neighboring towns, Sydney, Bainbridge and Masonville, there has been a Revival during the last winter. In Sandy Hill, Glens Falls, Moreau, Northumberland, Whitehall, Salem, and Saratoga, N. Y. the Revival which has been powerful, still continues and is progressive. Seventy-three persons were admitted to the church in Sandy Hill. The moral character of the village at Glens Fall, (a place formerly remarkable for vice and immorality) is represented as greatly changed.

In view of this intelligence we remark, that the revivals have not been confined to any particular denomination of Christians. The Congregationalists, the Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists, have shared almost equally in the special and gracious influences of the Holy Spirit. Therefore let the different denominations love one another.

Among the Wyandott Indians.

The Reverend J. B. Finley, Missionary among these Indians, writes, under date of the 10th Feb. that he visited the Wyandotts on the river Huron, and also those on the Canara, in Canada; that God owned his labors in both these places, but more especially in the latter, where several were awakened, three converted, and 15 joined society; that, on his return from this tour, the work of grace had so revived that 27 had been added to their number, which now amounted to 260.

AT SEA.

A letter to the Editor of the Boston Recorder, dated New Bedford, Ms. May 4, 1823, mentions, that a ship which had returned to that port from a whaling voyage, had been visited by the grace of God—four gave good evidence of having experienced a saving change; and others had returned to inquire of Christians, at home, what they should do to be saved?

At Mount Desert, Me.—Thirty persons lately became the subjects of divine grace, and have united with the Baptist church, and between 20 and 30 with the Pedobaptist church, in Mount Desert.

Under date of Jan. 30, we learn from Paris, in France, that a number of persons in the Canton de Vaud were added to the church of Christ.

Religious.

Bible Society.—At Drummond Town, Accomac County, Virginia, there was an Auxiliary Bible Society formed on the 1st inst. of which the Rev. Noah Davis, and Rev. Moses B. Chase, are members. The society has a wide field for the spread of the Scriptures, and if prosecuted with zeal may, with the blessing of God, do much good.

Bible Society of Maine.—We find in the annual report of the Trustees of this Society, that the sum of \$350 98 was received into their treasury during the past year.

Missionary Society.—The Female Missionary Society of Georgetown, D. C. have made their fifth annual Report; from which it appears, that the Treasurer of the Society has received, for the use of the same, the past year, \$117 16, of which was paid over \$97 16. That they have now, and have had for 2 years, under tuition, in Osage boy, who is probably farther advanced in the English language, than any other of his tribe. That near the Great Falls, some few years since, a Presbyterian Church existed; a minister now dead, preached alternately to them and to a neighboring people, in Montgomery county, Md. that now the candlestick is removed from that church, and the church itself no longer exists. And the Report concludes with the pious declaration, that "the word of God is our rule, Christ our captain and example, and the glory of God should be the supreme end of all our exertions."

The Treasurer of the American Education Society acknowledges the receipt of \$193, 17 in the month of March.

The receipts of the State of New-York, the last year, including the balance on hand at its commencement, was \$8,914; the expenditures were \$5,899. Of the receipts, the State paid \$3,835. The number of the pupils at the close of the year, was 50.

The Committee of the Wesleyan Missionary Society of Great Britain have resolved to appoint two missionaries at St. Augustine's Bay on the S. W. part of the island of Madagascar, where a new mission has commenced.

The Methodist Missionary Society in the Philadelphia Conference, have Missions among the Creeks in Georgia, and the Wyandotts in Ohio. The Chippewas, in Michigan, have lately sent an embassy, requesting "that they may be instructed after the manner of the Wyandotts." It is said their request will be complied with.—The Methodist Missionary Society of South Carolina, have erected seventeen houses for public worship.

The Trustees of Saunderson Academy, in Ashfield, Mass. give notice that beneficiaries of Education Societies may there receive tuition gratuitous; and that board is from one dollar to \$1 25 per week.

Bible.—A poor Frenchman, in Canada, whose house had been burnt down, sent his wife nine miles, with the sum of 3s. 6d. to purchase a Bible.

The Treasurer of the American Tract Society acknowledges the receipt of \$290, 61 in the month of March.

The Treasurer of the Missionary Society of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, acknowledges the receipt of the following sums for the Chickasaw Mission:

From a friend to the Mission, \$10 00
From New Providence Congregation Mechlenburg, N. C. by H. Foster, Esq. \$34 75
From Mrs. Harriet A. Elbert, second payment for educating Horace S. Pratt, \$30 00

Our readers will be gratified to learn (says the Southern Intelligencer of May 15,) that the Rev. C. F. Frey has safely returned from his late tour in the upper parts of this State and of Georgia. Besides fulfilling all his engagements mentioned in our paper of the 20th of March last, Mr. F. preached in several other congregations. In the course of 42 days he travelled nearly 700 miles, preached 39 times, collected about \$700, and formed 28 Societies Auxiliary to the American Society for Meliorating the condition of the Jews.

We understand that the Rev. Mr. Frey has received some interesting and important communications from Germany, respecting a number of Jews ready to emigrate to this country under the protection of the American Society for Meliorating the condition of the Jews. [S. Intel.]

CREEK MISSION.

On the 7th of October last, the Rev. William Capers writes:

"Your generous appropriation, last year, of two hundred dollars to our Mission School among the Creek Indians, was felt to con-

fer an obligation on the Missionary Committee and the Conference.

"The number of children under our instruction, varies from forty to sixty.

"Our mission-house was crowded every Sabbath day with eager hearers of the word. I never, no never preached to any people so hungrily anxious after divine things, as were the black people there. There were about sixty of them; and they were never weary of hearing."

The success and general prosperity of the Colonization Society, in the gradual and certain accomplishment of its highly praiseworthy object, affords us, as it must every Christian philanthropist, the greatest satisfaction. We have the strongest inducement gratefully to thank the Lord, for his gracious aid in this cause; and let this success stimulate us to a redoubled exertion in the emancipation and christianizing the poor Africans, many thousands of whom still sigh in slavery and grope in moral darkness.—Much still remains to be done.

COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

An abstract of the Seventh Annual Report, presented in Washington city, on Friday evening, Feb. 24, 1824.

The Board state, that Dr. Ayres returned to Africa with 61 colored persons, as colonists, in the brig Oswego, which sailed from Baltimore, on the 16th April, and arrived at Cape Montserado, on the 24th of May.

The ship Cyrus, with 100 emigrants from Richmond, Petersburg, and the low country of Virginia, sailed for Cape Montserado, in January. Among the emigrants is the Rev. C. M. Warring, a respectable colored preacher, who, after having visited the colony, now returns with his wife and children, and a considerable number of his affectionate flock.

The average expense of the emigrants in the Cyrus, is 26 dollars each.

The Receipts are \$7020 94—Disbursements \$6739 22.

The following donations received by the Rev. William M'Kenny, as the Agent of the American Colonization Society, were inadvertently omitted in the last Report of the Society, viz:

Thomas Roberts	\$5 00	Collected at the	
Wm. Chambers	5 00	Trap Meeting	
John S. Constable	5 00	House	\$3 00
Thomas Hopper	5 00	Col. Allen M'Lane	5 00
Samuel T. Emory	2 50	Pierce Mansfield	1 00
William Harper	5 00	J. Cummins	10 00
Robert Stephens	2 00	Mrs. Wilmer	1 00
Mrs. Dickson	0 50	Samuel Tippet	2 00
Collected in Rev.		Judge Davis	10 00
Mr. Gilbert's		Robert Patterson	5 00
Church, Wilmington, Del.	17 60	Judge Hale	5 00
Miss H. M'Ilmont	10 00	Rev. Mr. Osborne	2 00
[Nat. Intel.]			\$101 60

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The Society is gaining strength, and acquiring a hold on the public favor, slowly, perhaps, but, for that reason, the more valuable. It has won the public favor, by calmly proceeding to fulfil its duties, demonstrating the importance and the practicability of its objects, and over-coming the difficulties which obstructed its incipient proceedings. All alarm has subsided, misapprehensions have been corrected, and every man is now convinced, that the designs of the Society are patriotic and praiseworthy, whatever his opinion may be of the means which it has adopted to secure its objects. [Star.]

AFRICAN COLONY.

It appears from the 7th report of the American Colonization Society, that since the origin of this society, 225 emigrants had been sent to Africa; and the number then at the colony was 140—decrease 85. But this diminution has not proceeded from mortality alone. Previous to the purchase of Montserado, several individuals had abandoned the colony and settled at Sierra Leone; and others returned to this country. Information of 46 deaths only had been received by the board; and 22 of these were among the first emigrants that arrived in Africa, arising from the unhealthiness of the spot where they landed; 4 died at Sierra Leone; and the remaining 20 died at Montserado since the establishment of the colony there in the spring of 1822. Four of the latter were killed in the recent contest with the natives, two drowned, one died at the age of 80, one perished by his rashness, and four were children. From these facts the board ask, whether, when the difficulties inevitable to every new settlement on a barbarous shore, are duly considered, the establishment of a colony in Africa is impracticable? One half of the pilgrims who landed at Plymouth in the year of 1620, died before spring. Yet this distressing fact did not prevent the settlement of New-England. [S. Intel.]

Slave Trade.—This disgraceful traffic is still continued, notwithstanding the exertions of the United States and Great Britain to suppress it. It is stated that a vessel

arrived at Matanzas in the last week of April, from Africa, with ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY SLAVES ON BOARD.

ORDINATION.—Last week, says the Christian Gazette of the 15th inst. Mr. Benjamin F. Hughs, a young man of color, was ordained by the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and installed over the First African Presbyterian Church, in this city.

Charleston, S. C. May 10.—The Rev. Mr. Hogan left this city a few days since for Jamaica whence he is expected to return to this place.

THIRTY YEARS AGO.

"There was a period," said the aged and venerable president of the Swedish Bible Society, in their meeting at Stockholm, 'still fresh in the memory of many, when some predicted that the era was fast approaching when there would be no Bible to be found, except in large libraries, and covered with dust, to remain as a memorial of the superstition of our ancestors. They did not consider, that had such predictions been verified, the pillar which supports the civil government would have been removed, society at large would have lost its best security, and suffering humanity her best consolations. What would these airy schemers now say, could they rise from the dark tombs into which they have descended without hope, if they were to behold that sacred book, which was once the object of their cold hearted derision, now circulated throughout the whole world, anxiously inquired for by multitudes, and received with veneration and gratitude? What would they say, could they see princes and other exalted personages, and thousands of the various classes of society considering it their delightful duty to become fellow-laborers in paying homage to this important object, and by this means fulfilling the immutable truth of that divine declaration—"As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue confess to God?"

N. Y. Observer.

We earnestly recommend the following extract from the Christian Gazette, to the attention of all those of our Christian readers, who feel an interest in the subject, and who seek after those divine Truths which may affect their eternal welfare.

The following communication from an esteemed correspondent, we recommend to the serious perusal of Universalists, with this question for their consideration; viz. What is the hope of the Universalists other than this: that the Bible is untrue and God not consistent with himself?

From the Christian Gazette.

THE HOPE OF AN UNIVERSALIST TRIED.

Mr. ——— was once a regular worshipper in an orthodox church and in common with other families of his flock, the pastor visited him, and in conversing with him, found him always pleased till he came to the idea of punishment and particularly *Eternal punishment*. This particularly displeased him: he would always reply to the pastor, that, he did not believe that God ever made *any body* to damn them. When conversed with about the influence of his conduct over his children, he became very angry, and denied that he was accountable for their misconduct. He quit, however, almost entirely attending church, and soon became intemperate. It was not long till in the course of God's Providence he was obliged to try the strength of his hope; he was called to die. When sick he sent in great haste for his old pastor. The minister not being at home, a second messenger was soon despatched after him. When the minister arrived and had inquired as to his views of entering into eternity? "Oh!" says he, "I am of all men most miserable!! pray for me—I've but a short time to live, and am *altogether unfit to die*." The grounds of his former hope now forsook him forever. After the minister had left him which was at a late hour of the night, his anguish of mind and pain of body increasing, he sent before day light for a pious physician, and when he came he begged that he would pray for him, with which he complied. He continued in this wretched state till near day light, when he expired. Not quite twenty-four hours were given him to prepare for eternity. He had been somewhat unwell before; but not considered dangerously so, till the day before he died. In the morning he was taken ill, in the evening was full of pain of body and horror of mind; and before the next rising sun was in Eternity!

"When distress and anguish cometh upon the wicked; then shall they call upon Me, but I will not answer—they shall seek me early, but shall not find me. Terrors shall make the wicked afraid. His confidence shall be rooted out. He shall be chased out of the world." Prov. 1. Job 18.

THE CIRCULAR.

WILMINGTON, FRIDAY, MAY 28.

CHICKESAW MISSION.

On Sabbath evening last, we were favored with an edifying Sermon, preached in the Presbyterian Church in this place, by the Reverend Mr. BLAIR, from the 6th verse of the 55th chapter of the Prophet Isaiah, viz. "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near."—The subject of his discourse was very good, and delivered with such peculiar energy, and so strongly enforced by the speaker, that it will make a lasting and, we hope, a salutary impression on the minds and hearts of his numerous hearers.—At the conclusion of the discourse, Mr. Blair took occasion to give a brief account of the Chickesaw Mission; he having labored, and now residing, among that nation. He informed that, in March, 1823, there had been a promising school established, at a place called Monroe, for the instruction of the children of these Indians, in which 50 pupils were now regularly taught, both the rudiments of the English language and the principles of religion; and though no strong evidences of religious impression were, as yet, visible among these rude children of the forest, yet, there was no reasonable doubt entertained of their conversion to christianity, at no very distant period; that, on a certain occasion, when a number of young Indian girls (pupils of the above school) had assembled for their amusement, one of them had been guilty of uttering an untruth, when another immediately replied, in the English language, in words to this amount: "Mississippi! don't you know, that all liars will go down to the pit that burneth with fire and brimstone?" Which made such an awful impression on their minds, that a death-like silence ensued for some moments. Thus, early, some of the young heathens manifest their fear of the Lord and their obedience to his holy laws.—[Do not many white, christian children, too frequently disregard the divine commandment "Thou shalt not lie?"]—Though but few adult Indians, says Mr. Blair, have hitherto attended the preaching of the Gospel, there are as many as 100 colored people (slaves of white masters and of persons of mixed blood) who attend regularly at the house of God on Sabbath days. These poor mortals evince a much stronger desire to "seek the Lord," and to "call upon him," than do the natives. It is contemplated to establish several more schools among these Indians.

Last week a man of about 50 years of age, named Robert Wright, an Englishman, was drowned near Bush's wharf, in this borough.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, met on Thursday, the 20th instant, in the city of Philadelphia. The Rev. Dr. Chester, of Albany, N. Y. was to open the meeting with a sermon.

The Baltimore Methodist General Episcopal Conference, which met, in the first week of the present month, and held quadrennially, is composed of representatives from 12 Annual Conferences, comprizing, in the aggregate, 1226 travelling preachers, and embracing the whole Union and Upper Canada. For every 7 members belonging to each Annual Conference, 1 delegate is sent to the General Conference.—The assemblage of ministers lately convened at Baltimore, consisted of about 140 members; which is believed a greater number than has ever before met in the U. S. on a similar occasion. Two delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church of England, and the three

American Bishops, M'Kendree, George, and Roberts, attended at this Conference.

Congress adjourned yesterday, after having passed the Tariff Bill, with many amendments, some of which we may, probably, lay before our readers, hereafter.

The proprietors of the steam boat Aetna, have determined to adopt the low pressure engines in their boats.

A resolution was adopted in the House of Representatives of the U. S. on the 19th inst. instructing a committee to inquire into the expediency of making a provision by law, that no license shall be granted to any vessel hereafter built and propelled by fire or steam, upon the high pressure principle; nor to any vessel heretofore built and propelled by fire or steam, that shall hereafter be fitted up or provided with any engine, upon the said principle.—We trust this resolution has passed both Houses, and received the signature of the President.

HORRIBLE MURDER.

On Saturday night last, four villains entered a store kept by an aged woman, on the road near Darby. They tied her hands behind her back and otherwise ill used her. A young man living in the house hearing the noise, went to the old woman's assistance, but the ruffians severely cut him from the elbow to the wrist, and stabbed him so deeply in the side, that in attempting to draw out the knife, the handle came off and the blade was, by Dr. Shallcross, extracted with the assistance of a pair of pincers. The young man died soon after, having first given a relation of the circumstances and a description of the murderers with one of their names. The brutal threats of these ruffians to the wife of the man, whom they had just cut and stabbed, were, if possible of a more horrible and revolting character than the deed they had done. Each of them made up a bundle and carried it off. We understand that they crossed the lower Ferry and came into this city early on Sunday morning. Information has been given to the Mayor, and the Police are actively and eagerly in pursuit of the four wretches who have thus disgraced humanity. We just learn that the name of the old woman is Mrs. Warner, and that her son-in-law, who was killed, was Mr. Bonsell. Philadelphia Dem. Press.

The bill for a revision of the Tariff of Duties on Imports has, at length, passed both Houses of Congress, and wants only the signature of the President to become a law. That signature, there is no reason to doubt, it will receive, and it may be spoken of, by anticipation, as the law of the land.

Upon the passage of this act we have little room for comment. It is not the bill originally reported, its very nature being essentially changed by the amendments which, in its progress to maturity, it has undergone in both Houses, and particularly in the Senate. As it now stands, it has some good features, and few objectionable ones. It augments the duties on many articles, but not to such amount as to make them prohibitory, or oppressive in their operation. The objection to the principle of the bill in the Southern country and in some of the commercial districts, will still have their original force; but those which are founded on apprehensions of its practical operation will not, we think, be realized.

As the duties are not so far increased as to amount to a prohibition, the effect of the bill will be, after this year to add to the revenue an amount, variously stated, of from one to four millions of dollars. We do not much want the revenue, but, by this addition, the government will be able so much more rapidly to reduce the national debt, and thus prepare the nation more firmly to bear up against adverse circumstances, should it have again to encounter them, as it has done heretofore.

By the passage of this act, we shall be greatly disappointed if one important good has not been accomplished, viz: the satisfying the petitions and wishes of a large portion of our fellow-citizens, who have been induced, by a reasoning which we never could follow, to believe that such a measure as the adoption of a new Tariff was inseparably connected with our national independence. It may be fairly presumed, now, that the Tariff is settled for many years, and it is a subject of congratulation, that being settled, the revision has approached so nearly to the *beau ideal* of a "judicious" one. [Na. Intel.]

Various Intelligence.

Charleston, (S. C.) May 17.

A Canal Boat, belonging to Mr. Samuel S. Saylor, from this city bound to Columbia, with a valuable cargo of merchandize, was blown up in the Santee Canal, near the plantation of Dr. Ravenel, on Friday last. The boat and most of the cargo, including an elegant new piano forte were destroyed. The crew, which consisted of five negro men, were all more or less injured by the explosion, some of them dangerously. From the statement of the patrol, it appears that a carboy of ether or vitriol, must have burst in the hole—on hearing the explosion, he opened a slide between the cabin and the hold, and on putting in his lantern to discover the cause, fire instantly communicated by the candle to the foul air. The crew hastened to get off the hatches, but while in the act of doing so, a quantity of gunpowder, which was below, exploded, and literally blew the boat to pieces.

London papers to the evening of the 6th ultimo, have been received at New York. The most important intelligence, of a general nature, which they afford, is a revived rumor of a meditated Congress of the Allied Sovereigns of Europe, to be held at Paris.

Extract of letter from an American at Havana, to the Editors, dated May 6, 1824.

"There appears to be considerable apprehension of an invasion of the Island from Colombia, and there is a rumor that a considerable fleet of Colombian vessels have made their appearance on the south side. It is certain, that the government of Colombia have threatened that of this Island, that, if it does not cease to fit out expeditions to annoy them, they will send a force to destroy all the defenceless towns on the seaboard, which they, no doubt, can do very readily. In consequence of this threat, the military commanders have been ordered to prepare for defence.

"The inhabitants appear better contented under the Royal than they were under the Constitutional government. A government of the people is certainly best when the good predominate; but, when the reverse is the case, as it is here, the good require a government capable of protecting them. The constitutional government suited the worst part of the community, because justice was slow and uncertain; the Royal government the better part, because justice is prompt and summary. Governments should be suited to the character of the people. A popular government is best suited to us, and a Royal government is acknowledged to be the best for the people of this Island, and even the American residents prefer living under it, because it is better able to protect them. It must undoubtedly be the best until a radical change is made in the character of the people, for they have not virtue enough among them to govern themselves."—[Nat. Intel.]

The following is an extract of a letter from a gentleman on the Arkansas, to his brother in Franklin, Mo.

"I suppose you must have abundance of Indian news on the Missouri. The case of the murder on the Arkansas, by the Osages, is at present thus situated: The murderers were demanded by the commanding officer at Fort Smith. The chiefs went to see him, and agreed to acquiesce in any measures the President of the U. States might think expedient. They said they were willing to give up those who actually committed the murder, or the leaders of the party.

"It is the object of Clermont, the chief, to get his son clear, if possible, who fired the first gun, and killed the negro. He is not a leader, and should government require the leaders alone, he will escape. The Cherokees are anxious for hostilities with the Osages; and some of them have, I understand, offered their services to the Commandant at Fort Smith."

Resources of England.—England may be denominated the "Great Banking House" of Europe. Within the last year, she has loaned to other States over \$220,000,000. The following is a list of loans, paid, or contracted to be paid, in 1824:—

French,	L. 19,900,000	Greek,	- L. 892,000
Dutch,	- 2,000,000	Mexican,	- 8,800,000
Colombian,	- 4,000,000	Spanish,	- 5,000,000
Brazil,	- 2,500,000	Mines,	- 500,000
Portuguese,	- 500,000	Neapolitan,	2,000,000
Austrian,	- 500,000		
Peruvian,	- 2,720,000	Total,	L. 50,312,000
Buenos Ayres,	1,000,000		

Statistics.—The following is a comparative view of the population, revenue, and debt of the principal modern states:

	Population.	Revenue.	Nat. Debt.
France,	29,000,000	36,000,000	184,500,000
Austria,	28,000,000	12,500,000	73,000,000
Spain in Europe,	17,000,000	6,500,000	135,000,000
G. Britain in Europe, Asia, &c.	68,000,000	50,000,000	301,000,000
Netherlands,	6,000,000	7,000,000	145,000,000
with Colonies,	11,000,000	7,000,000	28,000,000
Prussia,	52,000,000	14,500,000	40,450,000
Russia with Poland,	10,000,000	5,000,000	19,000,000
United States,	5,000,000	2,900,000	14,000,000
Naples,	9,500,000		
Turkey in Europe,			

Pirates.—An English brig is mentioned to have been captured by the pirates, and carried in near the Isle of Pines, and all her crew reported to be murdered.

SUMMARY.

Military.—The steam boat Mandan, with military supplies for the posts on the Upper Mississippi, left St. Louis, on the 5th of April, for St. Peters.—Maj. Gen. Scott and suite, Gen. Atkinson and suite, Maj. Craig of the Ordnance, Capt. Gooding and family, were on board.—Gen. Scott is accompanied by Gen. Atkinson on a tour of inspection, and intends crossing the country by land from the falls of St. Anthony to the Council Bluffs, on the Mississippi river.

The Osages.—The Arkansas Gazette of the 13th ult. says, "By gentlemen arrived here (Little Rock) who left Fort Smith, on Sunday of last week, we learn that the U. States troops at that post, are immediately to be removed to the mouth of the Verdigris, where a new military establishment is to be erected. The future site of the garrison is about 80 miles above Fort Smith, and 50 below the Osage village. This may tend to give security to our western frontier.

Our differences with the Osages still remain unsettled. The murderers of Major Welborne have not been given up. Major Cummings has made a second demand of them, without success. A sub-agent had also left Fort Smith for the Osage village, to demand the murderers.

Fire.—On the morning of the 8th inst. the work-shop at Harper's Ferry, in which upwards of 200 workmen were employed, was entirely consumed by fire, together with the greater part of the machinery. The loss to the United States, will be from 8 to \$10,000. Provision is making for again employing the workmen thrown out of employ. Seven hundred finished muskets were destroyed.—And on the 12th inst. in the afternoon, the southern section of the old Lazaretto, opposite Fort Mifflin, near Philadelphia, was consumed by fire.

Vaccination.—To prove its efficacy, a person with the small pox was landed at New-York, from a sloop from Baltimore, together with a passenger who had never had the disease—the former was very sick—the latter was immediately vaccinated and remained with him. A nurse, with an infant which never had the small pox, but was also immediately vaccinated, attended the sick person. The vaccine matter prevailed, and neither of them were in any way affected with the symptoms of the small pox.

Small Pox.—This fatal disease is raging in most parts of the city of Charleston, S. C. in consequence of which, vessels that have the disease on board, were ordered from the harbor.

A Maniac.—The Sag Harbor, (L. I.) Corroctor, states, that Israel Ruland, of Brookhaven, laboring under what is commonly called "a concern of mind," awoke his wife on the night of the 6th inst. and very calmly told her it had been revealed to him, that he must destroy his family, and actually commenced his work of destruction by dashing his oldest child's brains out on the door step, & breaking the skull of another, when he was arrested by those not believing in his revelation.

Shocking.—On the 6th inst. a man named William Paradise, near Millsborough, Sussex County, Del. in the heat of angry passions, shot his son. He expired in about fifteen minutes.

Suicide.—John Wood, of Castleton, Staten Island, aged about 40 years, in despair, owing to a disappointed love affair, took a dose of arsenic, on the 4th inst. and thus destroyed himself.

Sudden Movement.—The Hon. John Randolph, "came galloping into Baltimore on Thursday, at half past 12 o'clock, dressed in a fur cap, blue coat, white vest, drab pantaloons, white top boots and spurs, and took passage immediately in the Philadelphia steam boat." He arrived here (New York,) on Saturday morning, 15th instant, took lodgings at Bunker's Mansion House, and sailed yesterday in the Nestor, with his servant, for Liverpool.

A verdict of \$500 was given at Westchester, before Judge Betts, against certain stage proprietors for upsetting the stage, and injuring the Rev. Ira Ingraham.

NEW-CASTLE.

The Corporation of this city, says the "Columbian Star," published at Washington, have made a donation of one hundred dollars, to the sufferers of New-Castle; and have also appointed committees to call upon our citizens for further assistance.

Died,

On Monday last, the 24th instant, in the city of Baltimore, General WILLIAM H. WINDER, in the 49th year of his age.

On the 1st inst. at Marietta, Ohio, Gen. RUFUS PUTNAM, aged 86 years. He took an active part in our Revolutionary war.

Poet's Corner.

We are sure that the following excellent lines on the subject of an anticipated meeting in the happy abodes of everlasting bliss, with those of our friends to whom, on earth, we were united in the closest bonds of friendly affection, will be read with much satisfaction.

WHEN SHALL WE MEET AGAIN?

When winter's storms are lull'd to rest,
And spring returns, a welcome guest,
In robes of verdant beauty drest,
We then, perhaps, may meet again.

When years on years have rolled away,
And sorrow's clouds obscured the day,
Destroying hope's inspiring ray,
We then, perhaps, may meet again.

Or should our life no sorrow know,
But joy's continual numbers flow,
And banish every thought of woe,
On earth we still may meet again.

But when the immortal spirit's fled,
And the cold clay shall be our bed,
The pillow for a weary head,
Oh! then where shall we meet again?

Yes—when we pass Death's shadowy gloom,
And tread the chambers of the tomb,
Say, hast thou thought, canst thou presume
To tell where we shall meet again?

Why, there's a home of rest above,
The mansion of our Father's love,
Where streams of endless pleasure move;
Oh! there we sure will meet again.

[Christian.]

From the Boston Recorder.

MASSACHUSETTS MISSIONARY SOCIETY. [CIRCULAR.]

Christian Brethren and Friends.—While numerous individuals and Societies are aiding in spreading the gospel among the destitute in our country, and among the heathen, and the children of God are often animated and strengthened by hearing of their success, we beg leave to lay before you a brief sketch of the past operations and present state of the *Massachusetts Missionary Society*.

This Society was formed on the 28th of May, 1799. Its object is to spread the gospel among the destitute in our own country, and among the Heathen.

To accomplish this object, it has employed, at different times, two hundred and twenty four missionaries. These missionaries have generally been employed from three to twelve months each. They have labored in destitute places in Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, and the various states west of the Alleghany Mountains, from Lake Erie to the Floridas. They have also visited and labored among several of the tribes of Indians within the limits of the U. States. Their term of service, it is supposed, has been, upon an average, about six months each. Upon this supposition, they have rendered 1,344 months missionary service; amounting in all to 112 years.

The people among whom they have labored, were all destitute of the stated preaching of the gospel; and many of them destitute of nearly all the means of grace. They were not accustomed to meet together even on the Sabbath, except for purposes of amusement; their children were growing up ignorant of God, and the way of life; many of them were destitute of common schools; and hundreds of families, even of the Bible. Children were found ten and twelve years old, who had never heard a sermon; and families, which were not only destitute of the Bible, but in which there was not a single person who could read it.

In some instances men pretended to preach the gospel, who boasted that they could not read; and gave this as an evidence that they preached by immediate inspiration. The consequence was a most deplorable state of ignorance, degradation, and vice. Multitudes were growing up in habits of wickedness, preparing to be nuisances to community in this world, and outcasts from the presence and favor of God in the world to come. But through the instrumentality of missionaries, they have been collected together to hear the gospel; and in numerous cases there is reason to believe it has been the wisdom, and the power of God to their salvation.

In one instance, writes an intelligent and worthy man, "I found nine persons in one town all hopefully pious, who received their first religious impressions, from a single sermon preached by one of your missionaries. And, he adds, I have no doubt but that the blessing of many ready to perish

will come on the Society. In passing thro' an extensive tract of destitute country, I found some in almost every place, who appeared to be truly pious, who acknowledged the labors of missionaries as the means of their salvation. And could those Christians who stately hear the gospel, see the joy and gratitude, which these poor destitute people express when they occasionally hear it, they never would cease to contribute of their substance for the continuance of missionary labors; nor would they cease to pray that these labors may be attended with the blessings of the Holy Spirit, and result in the glory of God, and the salvation of men."

In another instance, under the labors of one of the Society's missionaries, there was an extensive revival of religion, which resulted in the hopeful conversion of more than one hundred and fifty persons. In another instance, a single missionary was instrumental in the formation of five churches, in a destitute part of the country, in one year. More than fifty churches, it is supposed, have been formed in consequence of missionary labors, since the commencement of this society. Many of these churches now supply themselves with the stated preaching and ordinances of the gospel, and are doing much to extend these blessings to others. Often, more than one hundred persons in a year, have been admitted to churches which were already formed.

Missionaries have also been exceedingly useful in exciting the attention of people, in the destitute parts of the country, to schools and seminaries of learning. One of them, after laboring with distinguished success in the State of Tennessee, was elected President of Greenville College. In that situation he has labored more than twenty years. By instructing the youth, preaching the gospel, assisting in gathering churches, preparing pious young men for the ministry, establishing benevolent societies, distributing religious books, and in various other ways, he has exerted an influence which will be felt to all future generations. Numbers, whom he has been instrumental in preparing for the ministry, are now preaching the gospel; and some of them with distinguished success. Churches have been gathered over a wide extent of country; schools have been established; libraries have been formed; and various benevolent operations carried forward, which will be connected, in numerous ways, with the temporal and eternal welfare of men.

Two of the Society's missionaries in 1813—14, were instrumental in forming extensive Bible Societies in five different states. They explored the destitute country on the Mississippi, from Lake Erie to New Orleans. In three territories, after the most careful inquiry, they were led to conclude that there were not less than 10,000 families, and in the whole country through which they passed, not less than 40,000 families destitute of the Bible. Through the liberality of various individuals and societies, they distributed the first year, 600 Bibles, 3000 Testaments, and 10,000 religious tracts. The next year, they procured and were instrumental in distributing 400 bound volumes of religious books, 100 pamphlets, 8000 tracts, and 2,700 Bibles. And one of them was afterwards instrumental in procuring for distribution, in that destitute region, 4,200 Bibles more.

Nearly all the Society's missionaries, in addition to preaching the gospel, visiting schools, and performing the various other parts of missionary labor, have, as means could be obtained, distributed Bibles, tracts and other religious books. Thousands of volumes have in this way been circulated, and in the most destitute parts of the country.

But their wants are by no means supplied. Thousands of families still remain destitute of the Bible; and hundreds of thousands, destitute of the stated preaching of the gospel. The Sabbath is still, in many places, a day of amusement, and all the means of grace are neglected. Multitudes are living without the gospel, and dying without holiness. And, as *without holiness no man can see the Lord*, their case beyond the grave will be inexpressibly dreadful.

In the State of Massachusetts, are more than thirty churches, which have long been destitute of the stated preaching of the gospel; and which, without assistance from other churches, there is reason to fear, will never enjoy it. As they were too feeble, or too divided to support it wholly themselves, their houses of public worship were on the Sabbath often closed. The consequence was, a general and rapid decline of true religion, and as general and rapid an increase of error and immorality. Public worship was at length wholly suspended, and all the people left destitute of the stat-

ed means of grace. In this condition they have continued, sinking lower and lower in ignorance and sin. And remaining in this state, nothing but a miracle of grace can save them from endless perdition. Nor will the evil stop with them. It will affect their children, and children's children. It may extend to all future generations: and its influence be felt by multitudes to all eternity.

A few individuals, however, in all these places, still remember Zion. As they sit solitary, and sigh over the desolations around them, they stretch out their hands, and, with an imploring eye, look to us for help. And we feel that if means can be obtained, we ought to help them. They are members of the same body with ourselves; and when one member suffers, the other members ought to suffer with it. When we behold our fellow Christians sinking under the pressure of accumulating calamities, we ought to stretch out the arm of relief. We ought to do it for our *own* sake. We ought to do it for our *brethren* and *companion's* sake. We ought to do it for *Christ's* sake. Although he was rich, for our sake he became poor, that we through his poverty might be rich. And shall we stand by, and see those perish for whom Christ died? He agonized on the cross, to open the way for them to have the gospel. And shall we make no efforts to extend it to our brethren? If we hope to dwell with Christ, let us imitate his example. Could an efficient missionary visit the feeble and destitute churches in this Commonwealth, and say to them, Your sister churches are taking a deep interest in your condition, are praying that you may again have the gospel, and are ready to contribute to your relief; it would be to them as life from the dead. They would make vastly greater efforts to help themselves, than they can otherwise ever be expected to make; and in a few years they might, with a little assistance, and the blessing of God, again enjoy the gospel. Nor is it needful, in many cases, even to send a missionary. Several of these churches have made application, and are now earnestly entreating us for help. And could we assist them to the amount of *fifty or one hundred* dollars a year, they might soon settle a minister. In the course of a few years, with the divine blessing, they might support the gospel themselves.—The assistance which they received, might then be devoted to others who are destitute, until all the waste places in the Commonwealth would be supplied. And when we recollect that the gospel is the means which God has appointed, and is accustomed to bless for the salvation of men; who can estimate the effects of its establishment in thirty different places, which, without such assistance as we wish to give them, must remain destitute.

A minister now living, was settled over a feeble and destitute church in New England, which consisted only of about 20 members. That church now consists of about 300. And there have been added to it, since his settlement, more than 400. And there is every reason to believe that many, through his instrumentality, who might otherwise have perished, will now obtain eternal life.

The Society wish to say a word also, in behalf of the destitute in the state of Maine. In this state are more than 120 towns and settlements, containing a population of more than 100,000 souls, who are destitute of the stated enjoyment of the gospel. Many of them are destitute even of the Bible, and shut out, in a great measure, from all the means of grace. You may go through settlements forty, and in some cases, fifty, and even sixty miles, and not find a single house dedicated to the worship of God, or a single place where the famishing soul may repair from Sabbath to Sabbath, to partake of the bread of life. Yet over all these destitute regions are scattered individuals who once enjoyed the gospel. With kindred spirits they rejoiced in going to the house of God, and sitting under the droppings of the sanctuary.—Their eyes gazed with wonder, and their hearts swelled with love, as they saw the beauty of the Lord, and inquired in his temple. But these seasons of heavenly comfort have now passed away. The Sabbath indeed returns, but not its blessings. No voice is heard to whisper, Let us go up to the house of the Lord. No house of the Lord can be seen. No voice of prayer, and no song of praise is heard to echo over the desolation. All is silent; only as broken by the voice of worldly business and amusement, mingling with the voice of the beasts of the field and the fowls of heaven. The souls thirsting for God, and crying, When shall we come and appear before God, retire to weep in secret places, and pour out their desires to Him, "who heareth the prayer of the destitute," that he would incline those who still sit under the droppings

of the sanctuary, to send them a portion of its blessings.

From more than 20 towns we have received the earnest, and repeated entreaty, "Do send us a minister. We greatly need Bibles, and other religious books; but we need above all a minister, to go in and out before us, and break unto us the bread of life. Our children are growing up in ignorance, and exposed to all kinds of error.—You can scarcely conceive our destitute situation. We are indeed as sheep scattered upon the mountains, without a shepherd. Will you not speak to the churches of your highly favored region, in our behalf? Could they only witness our deplorable destitute condition, they would gladly assist us." And, considering that they are our brethren, many of whom have gone out from among ourselves; that they are near; that their wants are known; and that they look to us for help; the Society has, for the last five years, devoted its efforts principally to their relief. It has made it an object to help those, who would make an effort to help themselves. In this way it has been the means of settling a number of ministers. These ministers labor, a part of the time, among the people over whom they are settled, and the rest of the time, as missionaries in the destitute places in the vicinity. They receive their principal support from the people among whom they labor, and the remainder from the Missionary Society. In a few years, the people over whom they are settled will, it is believed, be able wholly to support them; and our assistance may be devoted to others who are destitute. In this way, could the means be obtained, it is believed, that twenty ministers might be settled in the principal places, through a destitute region of 200 miles, in the course of ten years. These, besides being pastors of so many churches, and teachers of so many congregations, might exert a powerful and salutary influence over an extensive and destitute region around them. They might be the means of the formation of other churches, and of the settlement of other ministers. As they would be on the ground, and able to encourage, direct, and concentrate the efforts of those, who are disposed to support the gospel; those efforts would be greatly increased; and would be rendered vastly more successful. In a few years, many towns, which might otherwise remain destitute for half a century, might in this way be supplied with ministers. Each minister, in addition to preaching the gospel and administering ordinances, might exert a powerful and salutary influence on the children and youth, not only of his own congregation, but of the destitute towns in the neighborhood. One of our missionaries, in a town that had no minister, no meeting-house, and no school-house, formed ten Sabbath Schools. In these were collected more than 200 children. If twenty ministers should each do the same, only in three towns, it would bring together 12,000 children to receive religious instruction; a great proportion of whom must otherwise remain destitute. And should each minister preach to 500 people in a town, this would bring no less than 50,000 souls under the sound of the gospel. And in addition to all the benefits which might result to them, and their children after them, their example might influence others; and their example others; and so the benefits might extend to multitudes, not only of the present, but all future generations; and might be felt by hundreds of thousands and even millions of souls, with deeper and deeper interest, to everlasting ages.

Such, Brethren and Friends, are the objects which we wish to present to your consideration. In view of them, we respectfully request that you would unite with other congregations in the Commonwealth, in an annual contribution for the MASSACHUSETTS MISSIONARY SOCIETY. We also request, that as many as consistently can would become life-members; that benevolent individuals among you, would make their minister a life-member; and if he and they should judge that it would be useful, form themselves into a Society, auxiliary to the Massachusetts Missionary Society; and afford it assistance annually, in such other ways, as they may think proper.

Wishing that you may be guided by wisdom from above, be influenced by love to Christ and the souls of men, and that your liberality may be the means of salvation to many, we remain, with Christian salutations, very respectfully yours, &c.

L. WOODS, }
J. EDWARDS, } *Committee*
of the Trustees of the Mass. Miss. Soc.

In debate, let truth be thy aim, not victory; and endeavor rather to gain, than expose thy antagonist.